

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:EAGR, FAO

SUBJECT:DRAFT POSITION PAPERS FOR FAO COUNCIL, 64TH SESSION,

NOV. 18-29 ROME

FODAG PASS BYRNES

1. USDA HAS JUST SUBMITTED DRAFT POSITION PAPERS ON ITEMS 6 AND 9 D. PER BYRNES REQUEST, WE FORWARDING FOR HIS COMMENT. WE HAVE NUMBER RESERVATIONS OURSELVES AND WILL DEVELOP THESE HERE IN TIME FOR ROME MEETING.

2. ITEM 6 REGARDING VARIOUS ISSUES APT TO ARISE IN WFC, WHICH MAY RELATE TO MATTERS OF CONCERN TO FAO, USDEL SHOULD BE GUIDED BY FOLLOWING:

A. INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING FOR WORLD FOOD SECURITY HAS ALREADY GONE THROUGH SEVERAL STEPS IN FAO AND PRESUMABLY WILL BE READY FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION, PREPARATORY TO SUBMISSION TO GOVERNMENTS, IN SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION. SUBJECT
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TO COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF ANY USEFUL SUGGESTIONS EMANATING

FROM WFC, THIS MATTER SHOULD MOVE FORWARD AS SCHEDULED, UNDER AGENDA ITEM 7(A).

B. EARLY WARNING SYSTEM, AS EXPANSION OF ALREADY-EXISTING ACTIVITY OF FAO WAS AUTHORIZED BY SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FAO CONFERENCE. THIS ALREADY-FUNCTIONING ACTIVITY SHOULD CONTINUE, I.E., IF WFC RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDE ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE, COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE THESE INTO ACCOUNT; AND PRESENT FRAMEWORK SHOULD PROVIDE BASIS

UPON WHICH ADDITIONAL COVERAGE SHOULD BE BUILT.

C. INCREASED EMPHASIS UPON INCREASED AGRICULTURAL (AND FISHERIES) PRODUCTION IN LDCS THAT MAY BE EXPECTED TO EMANATE FROM WFC RELATES TO AREA IN WHICH FAO HAS LONG EXPERIENCE AND SUBSTANTIAL LEVEL OF COMPETENCE. MUCH OF ITS WORK IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS FINANCED BY UNDP, SOME BY BILATERAL DONORS AND, AS BASIS FOR INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE, SOME BY IBRD. WHATEVER THE ADDITIONAL FINANCING OR SOURCES IN-SO-FAR AS APPROPRIATE THE ALREADY EXISTING FACILITIES SHOULD BE UTILIZED FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AIMED AT IMPROVING FOOD PRODUCTION.

D. REGARDING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS FOR IMPROVING NUTRITION, UPON WHICH WFC MAY BE EXPECTED TO MAKE SOME RECOMMENDATIONS, THIS RELATES TO FIELDS OF INTEREST OF FAO AND WFP, AS WELL AS WHO AND UNICEF. THE ROLES OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS IN RELATION TO NUTRITION ARE WELL DEFINED, AND SATISFACTORY MECHANISMS FOR COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED. WHATEVER ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES OF PROGRAMS MAY BE REQUIRED IN FAO AND WFP AREAS OF INTEREST, THEIR CAPACITIES IN RELATION TO NUTRITION FIELD SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO FULLEST PRACTICABLE EXTENT.

E. IN AREAS OF TRADE, STABILITY AND ADJUSTMENT RELATING TO TWO AREAS IN WHICH FAO INVOLVED, I.E., INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT, NATURE OF RECOMMENDATIONS THAT MAY EMANATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM WFC IS LESS CLEAR THAN IN SOME OTHER AREAS. HOWEVER, THEY MAY RELATE TO ACTIVITIES OF FAO, UNCTAD AND GATT. FAO'S CURRENT ROLE (THROUGH CCP, INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES, AND COUNCIL) IN RELATION TO ROLES OF UNCTAD AND GATT, IN REGARD TO AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS, IS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY AND SHOULD BE CONTINUED. ALSO SO FAR AS FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OR STUDIES MAY BE REQUIRED REGARDING

INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT, THESE CAN BEST BE CONDUCTED IN FAO, WHILE ANY ACTIONS RELATING TO TRADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES SHOULD BE LEFT TO GATT.

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F. REGARDING INVESTMENT, IF SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR NEW FUND OR OTHER ARRANGEMENT FOR CHANNELLING MORE INVESTMENT INTO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD EMERGE FROM WFC AND US POSITION IN RELATION TO IT IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR, USDEL SHOULD SEEK NEW INSTRUCTIONS, HOWEVER, WHATEVER THE SOURCE OF ANY NEW FUNDS, DEL MAY FAVOR USE OF FAO INVESTMENT CENTER AS APPROPRIATE MECHANISM FOR ASSISTING GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN PLANNING PROJECTS AND DEVELOPING REQUESTS FOR LOANS. IN THIS CONTEXT USDEL MAY FAVOR FAO INITIATIVES TO STRENGTHEN ITS EXISTING COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT WITH IBRD AND IDB. USDEL SHOULD ALSO SUPPORT PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD IN SEC. KISSINGER'S SPEECH TO WFC FOR COORDINATING GROUP FOR FOOD PRODUCTION AND INVESTMENT, PROVIDED THIS IDEA WILL HAVE RECEIVED GENERAL SUPPORT IN WFC.

G. REGARDING ANY PROPOSALS FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGES THAT MIGHT AFFECT FAO OR GOVERNING BODIES, DEL MAY SUPPORT ACTION LEADING TO CAREFUL STUDY OF SUCH PROPOSALS BY FAO COUNCIL AND CONFERENCE BUT SHOULD NOT AGREE TO PROPOSALS THAT WOULD WEAKEN ROLES OF FAO GOVERNING BODIES IN RELATION TO FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANIZATION, OR WHICH WOULD WEAKEN FAO ROLE AS THE PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION.

H. USDEL SHOULD ALSO BE GUIDED BY CONTENT OF RESPECTIVE POSITION PAPERS FOR WFC BUT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASPECTS OF THOSE PAPERS WILL HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY EVENTS IN WFC ITSELF, AND THEREFORE THAT NEW APPROACHES MAY IN SOME INSTANCES BE REQUIRED.

3. ITEM 9D.

A. USDEL MAY JOIN IN NOTING WITH APPROVAL ACTION TAKEN BY FINANCE COMMITTEE AS RECORDED CL 63/3, PARAS 65-66.

B. USDEL MAY CONCERN IN COUNCIL APPROVAL, AS RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE INVOLVING ONE BETWEEN CHAPTER TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM INVESTMENT CENTER TO FAO/IBRD COOPERATIVE PROGRAM. IT MAY ALSO JOIN IN NOTING WITH APPROVAL OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN BY PROGRAM COMMITTEE (CL 64/7, PARAS 5-8) AND FINANCE COMMITTEE. DEL MAY ALSO

JLIN IN NOTING CONCERN OF PROGRAM COMMITTEE OVER TRANSFER OF CONSULTANT FUNDS FOR INITIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF POSSIBLY CONTINUING POSTS IN FAO/IDB COORDINATION OFFICE. ALSO IN NOTING INTENTIONS OF PROGRAM AND FINANCE COMMITTEES TO EXAMINE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR USE OF CONSULTANT FUNDS IN CONNECTION WITH EXAMINATIONS OF PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET, 1976-77.

C. REGARDING SUBSTANTIALLY LARGER GROUP OF ADJUSTMENTS ARISING FROM SAVINGS ACCUMULATED FROM CHANGES IN LIRA VALUE USDEL MAY: --

(1) CONCUR IN RESERVATIONS OF FINANCE COMMITTEE ABOUT A NUMBER OF ASPECTS OF DG'S PROPOSALS, AS SET OUT IN CL 64/5.

(2) CONCUR IN PROGRAM COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS ON PROGRAM ASPECTS OF THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS AS SET OUT IN CL 64/7, PARAS 9 - 41.

(3) CONCUR IN PROPOSED CHANGES IN DG'S PROPOSALS AS AGREED UPON OR SUGGESTED BY PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND/OR FINANCE COMMITTEE, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) REDUCING AMOUNT FOR CONSULTANTS FOR PREPARATION FOR THIRD SESSION OF COAG FROM 27,800 DOLLARS TO 15,000 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DOLLARS;

(B) LIMITING INDEX OF CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL DECISIONS TO DECISIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS OF THESE TWO BODIES, AS PROPOSED BY THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE. IN THIS CONNECTION DEL MAY OBSERVE THAT FINANCE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL REGARDING METHOD OF PROCESSING INDEX WOULD BE UNDULY RESTRICTIVE;

(C) REDUCING ESTIMATED COST OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND NUTRITION POLICIES SESSION FROM 8,350 DOLLARS TO 5,000 DOLLARS AS PROPOSED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE;

(D) QUESTIONING NEED FOR D-1 AS COMPARED WITH LOWER-LEVEL POST FOR WORK IN RELATION TO AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AS RAISED BY BOTH PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE;

(E) POSSIBLY REDUCING UNBUDGETED GENERAL SERVICE STAFF COSTS ARISING FROM OFFICE MOVES, AS PROPOSED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE.

(4) EMPHASIZE FACT THAT MANY PROPOSALS INVOLVE OR

IMPLY CONTINUING COMMITMENTS, THUS EXPANDING PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL BASE UPON WHICH DRAFT 1976-77 PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET WILL BE DEVELOPED, AND EXPRESS GRAVE CONCERN OVER MAKING SUCH CONTINUING COMMITMENTS BEFORE PRIORITIES FOR NEXT BIENNIUM ARE ESTABLISHED.

(5) CONCUR IN FINANCE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION THAT 0.8 MILLION DOLLARS OF CURRENCY SAVINGS AVAILABLE BY END 1974 SHOULD BE SET ASIDE AND ADDED TO ANY FURTHER CURRENCY SAVINGS EXPECTED TO ACCRUE IN 1975, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS VARIOUS COMMITMENTS AND NEEDS OF FAO IN 1975 CAN BE CONSIDERED TOGETHER AND IN RELATION TO POSSIBLE PROXSALS-FOR SA EGUARDYNG AGAINST UNFAVORABLE CURRENCY AND INFLATIONARY DEVELOPMENTS IN 1976-77. MAW

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